



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.

DATE:

(Weeks of march 15 – March 31, 2017)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks;
however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis

District 1 – Sgt. Tony Petreikis

(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)

CARROLL COUNTY

CPO Jones and CPOT Poffenberger cited a Clinton man for killing an Illinois deer without a valid permit. A Thomson man was also cited in connection to the investigation for failure to report a deer harvest by 10:00 P.M. Both subjects were warned for falsification of record.

CPO Jones took an injured screech owl to Hoohaven in Durand, Illinois for rehabilitation.

HENRY COUNTY

CPO Posateri investigated a deer permit violation from the 2016 season. It was determined the man of the house had been using his wife's deer permits for years. The wife confessed she was not a hunter and had never shot a deer. Several citations were issued.

JO DAVIESS COUNTY

CPO Hoogerwerf received a complaint from the Jo Daviess Conservation Foundation (JDCF) regarding an ongoing problem at their preserves. A Galena man had allegedly been allowing his four dogs to roam the preserves off leash and kill mink, raccoons and other mammals for many years. JDCF rules require dogs to be on a leash at all times, and permission is required prior to any hunting. On March 8th, the individual posted on Facebook photos of his dogs off leash and actively engaged in hunting within the boundaries of the Casper Bluff Land and Water Reserve. The dogs had been out of his sight for 20 minutes before he located them digging 18" deep holes around a cherry tree stump located in a native prairie restoration. The man allowed his dogs to continue to dig and attempt to kill the animal while he documented their activity with photos.

According to JDCF personnel, the digging was “especially egregious and damaging due to the presence of sub-surface Native American cultural sites.” On March 20th, the man was observed at the Casper Bluff Land and Water Reserve. Again his dogs were off leash. He was issued a citation for “allowing a dog to hunt without permission” for his activity on March 8th and multiple written warnings for violations on March 20th.

CPO Hoogerwerf patrolled Apple River Canyon State Park. Multiple citations were issued for violating the posted 35 MPH speed limit. The highest speed observed was 55 MPH.

LEE COUNTY

CPO Beltran and a law enforcement intern made several dumping cases on Walker Road. Arrests were made after garbage was discovered with mail dumped on the side of the road.

MERCER COUNTY

CPO Francisko closed out multiple cases from 2016, including a Texas resident who did not have a non-resident hunting license, habitat stamp or any deer permits and was caught archery deer hunting the week before firearm deer season. The Texas man poached a doe. The man pleaded guilty to hunting deer without a valid firearm deer permit. Total costs on that charge were \$741 (\$2,500 civil penalty for the poached deer). The Texas man pleaded guilty to a second charge of hunting deer without a non-resident hunting license. Total costs on that charge were \$491. Poaching a doe in IL cost the Texas man a total of \$1,232, and he forfeited the deer meat.

OGLE COUNTY

CPO Beltran and a law enforcement intern were informed of damage at White Pines State Park. Graffiti was spray painted all over the foot bridges. Hate speech was displayed along with vulgar language. After a lengthy investigation, it was discovered 3 juveniles were responsible. A report was forwarded to the States Attorney’s Office.

ROCK ISLAND

IDNR Region 1 District 1 CPO Francisko closed out the several cases, including a Milan man who was found to be driving revoked on State Park property with no insurance on his vehicle. The man was arrested and taken to jail (vehicle towed). The man was found guilty on both counts. Fines and costs totaled \$898.

CPO Posateri was stopped at a red light when she looked over and saw a driver texting. The light turned green, and the driver shifted the manual transmission with the phone in his hand. The driver continued to drive and text as they crossed the Veteran’s Bridge from Moline into Milan. CPO Posateri activated the emergency lights for a traffic stop. The driver was issued a citation for the IVC violations.

STEPHENSON

No activity reported for this county

WHITESIDE

No activity reported for this county

District 6 - Sgt. Phil Wire

(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)

BOONE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

BUREAU COUNTY

CPO Wagner received a call from the Princeton Police Department in reference to a possible wildlife violation. After discovering 2 Canada Geese and 1 Blue Heron killed and breasted out, an investigation was initiated. Joined by CPO Finn, CPOs Wagner and Finn interviewed 4 teenage suspects identified by the complainant. After a short investigation, two juveniles admitted to shooting the birds out of season and discarding carcasses on private property. Both individuals were issued citations for possession of freshly killed species during closed season, unlawful take of 1 Blue Heron and 2 Canada Geese, unlawful take of migratory game birds out of season, discard of carcass on private property without permission and possession of unlawfully taken species.

DEKALB COUNTY

CPO Murry presented at a hunter safety course in Waterman where 100+ students were in attendance.

CPO Murry was conducting stationary radar enforcement in Shabbona Lake State park when he observed a vehicle traveling more than 15 miles per hour over the posted speed limit. After stopping the vehicle, the driver was arrested for no valid driver's license, speeding. Civil citations were also issued for possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia.

LASALLE COUNTY

CPOs Jansen, Wagner, and Filipiak patrolled the Starved Rock Trails and issued 33 citations, including 8 citations for civil cannabis.

CPOs Jansen and Filipiak located an ATV operating on private property without permission. While dealing with that operator, 2 more ATVs fled from CPO Filipiak. One of the ATVs was located abandoned in some woods near the suspect's residence. The ATV was seized pending further investigation.

CPO Filipiak was patrolling LaSalle County and observed a vehicle traveling 77 MPH in a 55 MPH Zone. Upon the stop and field sobriety testing, the driver was arrested for DUI drugs.

CPO Murry was traveling home from Starved Rock State Park when he observed a vehicle parked on the side of the road with its hazards on. After checking on the occupants, it was discovered they were out of gas and had no money. The driver was also on oxygen and was running low. After determining that roadside

assistance was more than an hour away, CPO Murry purchased gas for the individuals and then had them follow him to the gas station to fill their vehicle up. Once arriving at the gas station, CPO Murry confirmed the individual's oxygen tank was now empty, and his oxygen levels were starting to drop. CPO Murry contacted an ambulance. After arriving on scene, the ambulance crew switched out the oxygen tank and allowed the gentleman to drive home safely.

PUTNAM COUNTY

CPO Finn was patrolling Putnam County when he observed a car traveling well above the posted speed limit. After pulling the car over, CPO Finn found the driver was under the influence of alcohol and had no proof of insurance. The car was towed, and the driver was arrested for DUI, speeding over 35mph above the posted limit and no proof of valid insurance.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Fraser received a disposition from a Cannabis DUI arrest which occurred in Rock Cut State Park. In addition to showing impairment, the driver admitted to smoking cannabis a short time before driving and had a newborn child in the car. During the arrest, over 15 grams of cannabis was seized along with drug paraphernalia. The driver was ordered to complete 3 victim impact panels, was placed on 2 years' probation for three of the violations and given a fine of \$2,793.

While on an after-hours patrol in Rock Cut State Park, CPO Fraser observed a vehicle driving in a restricted area with its headlights off. Once the vehicle saw CPO Fraser it changed direction and took off towards a main road. CPO Fraser was able to catch up to and stop the vehicle. CPO Fraser asked the 5 occupants what they were doing in the area with their lights off. The occupants freely admitted they were in the park to smoke cannabis and produced a small amount of cannabis. CPO Fraser asked if there were any other drugs or weapons in the vehicle. The occupants stated there were none. After ISP backup arrived, CPO Fraser conducted a search of the vehicle and discovered several grams of cannabis, various cannabis paraphernalia, and a realistic CO₂ powered BB handgun under the front seat. Multiple citations were issued for cannabis and park violations.

While patrolling Rock Cut State Park after posted closed hours, Officer Schoonhoven arrested a subject on drug charges, driving while license suspended charges, and other administrative rule charges.

CPO Alt stopped a man for unlawfully wearing headset music receivers in both ears while driving a motor driven cycle in Rock Cut State Park. Additional vehicle code violations were detected and addressed, including violation of driver's license classification – motorcycle or motor-driven cycle and unlawful operation of an uninsured motor vehicle.

CPO Alt assisted CPO Schoonhoven with a traffic stop for speeding once it was discovered the driver had a suspended driving privilege. CPO Alt inventoried the subject's automobile for towing while CPO Schoonhoven took the driver into custody and issued citations for the Illinois Vehicle Code offenses observed.

CPO Alt stopped six park patrons for unlawful entry or remaining in Rock Cut State Park after the posted closing period.

CPO Alt stopped and inspected four motorboats and addressed wake zone violations observed for two of the watercraft on Pierce Lake in Rock Cut State Park.

CPO Alt clocked a Winnebago County man speeding through Rock Cut State Park at sixteen miles per hour over the posted speed limit. During the course of the traffic stop, CPO Alt discovered the man was wanted on a warrant in Boone County for failure to appear in court for outstanding traffic offenses. Once the warrant was confirmed by the originating agency, CPO Alt took the driver into custody and transported him to the Winnebago County jail in lieu of bond.

CPOs Alt and Schoonhoven provided traffic support during a Rockford Road Runners permitted event (12.1 mile multi- stage running race) held in Rock Cut State Park. Approximately 150 runners participated in this trail/road race which is held annually at the park.

CPO Murry and CPO Fraser were conducting enforcement of after-hours violations at Rock Cut State Park. A vehicle was observed speeding in the park 1 hour and 15 minutes after closing time. A stop on that vehicle revealed the driver had just smoked cannabis. After a brief investigation, the driver was arrested for driving under the influence. A passenger in the vehicle, a 9 months pregnant female, also admitted to smoking cannabis and was given civil citations for unlawful possession of cannabis.

CPO Murry completed a wildlife investigation in which two deer carcasses had been dumped in the Wal-Mart parking lot in Rockton. After a lengthy investigation, the suspect was tracked down, and it was discovered the individual was a resident of Illinois but was hunting in Wisconsin on Wisconsin resident tags. He shot the two deer in November and had kept the carcasses in his truck since that time. The suspect admitted to dumping the deer which had begun to stink after leaving them in his truck since he harvested them. He was issued citations for wanton waste, unlawful dumping of wildlife without permission, and unlawful importation of animal carcass or parts. He was issued warnings for littering, failure to notify Secretary of State of address change, and possession of wildlife taken illegally in another state. The case has also been referred to Wisconsin DNR for pursuit of the falsification of records.

District 7, Sgt. Scott Avery

(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)

FULTON COUNTY

CPO Thompson issued a citation to a subject for unlawfully hunting without permission of the landowner.

CPO Thompson attended two hunter safety classes in London Mills. Students from Chicago to Vandalia were in attendance.

CPO Thompson and CPOT Sanford patrolled the Illinois River between Banner and Liverpool. Multiple written warnings were issued for equipment violations.

CPO Thompson received a case disposition for 2016 deer poaching case. The subject pleaded guilty and was fined \$1,021.

HENDERSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

KNOX COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MARSHALL

CPO Gerard received a court disposition from a 2015 and 2016 ginseng case. Four subjects pleaded guilty to unlawfully trespassing to dig ginseng. They each paid \$804 in fines.

McDONOUGH

CPO Reid conducted three deer permit investigations.. Multiple violations were documented.

PEORIA COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

STARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO VanZant cited a subject at Powerton Lake for being in the restricted area.

CPO VanZant cited 3 subjects for fishing without permission of the landowner. The subjects had snuck into a local private lake. On their 3 mile walk in, they walked by four no trespassing signs. One of the subjects had been cited in 2016 for fishing without permission.

CPO Lazzell issued a citation and written warnings to a Powerton Lake fisherman for unlawful entry into a posted restricted area, harassment of wildlife and unlawful possession of an air gun in a State fish & wildlife area.

WARREN COUNTY

CPO Reid cited an out-of-state hunter for unlawfully taking a Whitetail deer during the firearm deer season.

WOODFORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins

District 2 – Sgt. Eric Schreiber (Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)

KANE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

LAKE COUNTY

CPOs Kelley and Winters investigated a complaint of a missing boat. A landowner in Antioch said a small jon boat was taken from his property by someone on a snowmobile. Unfortunately for the snowmobile rider, his sled left tracks leading back to his house. After a brief interview, the subject confessed to taking the boat and using it as a sled to pull kids through the snow. Multiple citations and warnings were issued, and the boat was returned to its rightful owner.

CPO Kelley made a public appearance at a local bait shop in Antioch. The event focused on boating and fishing regulations on the Chain O' Lakes. Approximately 15 people were in attendance. CPO Kelley fielded many interesting questions, and his presentation seemed well-received by the attendees.

CPOs Kelley and Davis checked on the well-being of a seemingly-injured Bald Eagle at Chain O' Lakes State Park. Fortunately, the eagle proved to be fine and flew away upon the CPOs' approach.

CPO Davis interviewed a subject in regards to his deer harvest in 2016. During the interview, the hunter initially lied about the events of the harvest but ultimately admitted to taking an 11 point buck without a permit and transporting an untagged deer. He received two citations, and the deer was seized.

CPOT Knop and CPO Davis observed two subjects fishing. During a compliance check, both subjects were found in possession of cannabis. They received civil citations and were released.

McHENRY COUNTY

CPO Winters received a complaint of two 55 gallon garbage cans filled with garbage from a residence at Moraine Hills State Park. Contact was made with the subject, who advised he missed garbage day. The subject received a citation.

While on patrol, CPO Winters observed the vehicle in front of him pass two vehicles on the shoulder. CPO Winters stopped the vehicle. A citation for no proof of insurance and written warnings for unlawfully passing on the shoulder, obstructed windshield and expired registration were issued.

CPO Winters received a complaint of a subject who traded a boat to another individual without having the title. After talking to the subject, he admitted to buying and trading the boat for another boat without having a title or getting it in his name. A citation was issued.

District 3 – Sgt. David Wollgast
(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)

GRUNDY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

KANKAKEE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland worked a plain clothes detail for fishermen sneaking into Silver Springs State Park to illegally catch trout after they were stocked before the season begins. Four citations and five warnings were issued.

WILL COUNTY

CPO Reid responded to a property owner's complaint of an individual fishing on private property without permission. The individual was contacted and cited for fishing on private property without permission.

CPO Reid stopped a truck and several ATVs "mudding" on private property they did not have permission to be on. Trespassers routinely go off-road at this location and cause significant damage to the property. A complaint was signed by the owner, and the individuals were cited for the offense.

CPO Reid was on patrol at a private body of water where a trespass complaint has been established, prohibiting trespassing or fishing on the property. Three individuals were cited for fishing on private property without permission.

CPO Reid stopped 2 individuals trespassing on private property to collect shed deer antlers. A complaint was signed by the property owner and both individuals were cited for the unlawful removal of shed antlers on private property without permission.

District 4 – Sgt. Jed Witchurch

(Counties: Cook & DuPage, Lake)

COOK COUNTY

CPO Mooi assisted CPO Vadbunker with a K9 drug arrest. CPO Vadbunker and K9 Toby located 10.8 pounds (4,898 grams) of cannabis inside a North Carolina man's baggage. The man was arrested for felony offenses including cannabis trafficking, manufacture with intent to deliver, and possession of cannabis over 2,000 grams.

CPO Mooi and CPO Klemme seized an endangered Western Hognose snake from a Chicago man. The man did not possess the required permits for the snake. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Mooi stopped a Brookfield man after being almost hit by the man for driving erratically on I-290. The man stated that he was trying to get away from a white SUV behind him. The white SUV also almost struck CPO Mooi's truck but veered off at the last second. The man said a girl he met at a party was following him, angry because he fought with her boyfriend at a party earlier in the night. The white SUV continued traveling on the interstate and was unable to be located. The man was issued two written warnings for traffic violations.

CPO Mooi pulled up to Jackson Harbor to check fishermen. A black Hyundai was leaving as CPO Mooi was parking his truck. The vehicle began driving away leaving a trail of cannabis smoke. A traffic stop was made, and a civil citation was issued for possession of cannabis under 10grams.

CPO Farber cited two subjects at Skokie Lagoon for possessing over limits of Crappie. CPO Farber conducted a compliance check on three fishermen in a secluded, wooded area. All three men had 12 to 14 Crappie in their possession. The fishermen were properly licensed by the State Of Illinois. CPO Farber educated the men on the site specific 15 fish daily harvest limit and left. One hour later, CPO Farber returned to the area and observed two fishermen in the same location. CPO Farber set up surveillance on the fishermen in a wooded area of concealment. While conducting surveillance, CPO Farber observed both fishermen each catch approximately 14 more crappie. They had two buckets and a fish basket near their location. After watching them for approximately 45 minutes, CPO Farber approached them to conduct a creel limit investigation. When one of the fishermen observed the CPO, he kicked one of his buckets over attempting to place unlawfully taken fish back into the water. After inspecting the area, a total of 34 Crappie were discovered. The fishermen were issued two citations each and given a mandatory court date.

CPOs Farber and Gilmer conducted a plain clothes detail at Skokie Lagoon. The CPOs were fishing while conducting surveillance on an area known for violators taking over limits of Crappie. The CPOs walked up to several fishermen but did not identify themselves as Conservation Police. They asked the fishermen how many fish they had. The men stated two Bluegill. The CPOs walked around the area and observed the fishermen catch several Crappie. After approaching the fishermen and identifying themselves as Conservation Police, one fisherman threw two Crappie into the water. CPO Farber grabbed his bucket and found fifteen more fish in the bucket. The fisherman was in possession of a total of seventeen Crappie. The site specific daily harvest limit is fifteen per angler. CPO Gilmer issued the subject a citation for an over limit of Crappie.

CPO Klemme responded to several complaints from the reptile show in Tinley Park. Following an on-site investigation, several written warnings were issued. A vendor from Florida had an albino black rat snake without any proof of origin. A vendor from California had several Mangrove snakes for sale/display without permits.

CPO Klemme conducted a traffic stop after an individual failed to stop at a stop sign and was travelling at a high rate of speed. The driver of the vehicle had a revoked driver's license. The vehicle was towed, and the driver was issued citations for driving while revoked, no valid insurance and disobeyed a stop sign.

CPO Klemme responded to a trapping complaint in Brookfield. After a brief investigation, the subject was issued several citations for nuisance trapping without a permit at several different addresses, release of wildlife without permission and failure to tag traps.

CPO Klemme and Sgt. Whitchurch attended the Chicago Harbor Safety Committee meeting.

CPOT Snodgrass and Sgt. Whitchurch were on patrol in William Powers State Fish and Wildlife Area when they clocked a vehicle driving 35 MPH in a posted 15 MPH area. A traffic stop was made on the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle admitted his fault and understood why the Conservation Police were enforcing these laws. The driver was issued a citation for unlawfully speeding in a State area.

CPOT Brook Stanbary issued a written warning to a male subject at Wampum Lake (Cook County forest preserve) who was observed urinating on a tree in plain view of the public. The subject was advised to use the porta-a-potties scattered throughout the preserve to avoid offending others.

CPOT Stanbary, while on patrol, noticed suspicious activity inside a vehicle parked in a Cook County forest preserve parking lot near Tampier Lake. Upon further investigation, CPOT Stanbary observed cannabis in the center console in plain view. The two male juvenile occupants were both cited for civil cannabis violations for possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia. A grinder, glass pipe, and less than 2.5 grams of cannabis along with a blunt were confiscated. Both juveniles were cited and released with May 8th court dates in Cook County.

While conducting fish enforcement at William Powers State Fish & Wildlife Area, CPOT Brook Stanbary cited one individual for fishing with no sport fishing license and another for having an open alcohol container in a restricted area. Both men were released on I-bonds. CPOT Stanbary also identified a fisherman wanted on an outstanding warrant. The fisherman was wanted in Cook County on a failure to appear warrant for traffic violations. He is being held on a \$15,000 10% bond.

DuPAGE COUNTY

CPO Mooi observed a vehicle driving approximately 35 mph in the left lane of I-290 near York Road. The vehicle was traveling slowly and straddling the left fog line. CPO Mooi conducted a traffic stop and discovered that neither the driver nor the passenger of the vehicle possessed a valid driver's license. The driver was arrested for driving without a license, and a valid driver was called to the scene to take possession of the vehicle.

CPO Mooi observed three males fishing in a popular subdivision in unincorporated DuPage County. When CPO Mooi approached and asked the fishermen for their fishing licenses, one of the men stated "we don't need any, this is private property". CPO Mooi explained the regulations to the fishermen while issuing citations to the Illinois and Indiana men. A written warning was issued to the third fisherman who was a visiting foreign national.

LAKE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes

District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)

CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum issued a salvage deer tag to a Clark County man.

CPO Wellum received a complaint of criminal trespass to hunting property in Cumberland County. CPO Wellum located the Cumberland County man and issued him a warning for criminal trespass to land.

CPO Wellum, in conjunction with the Indiana DNR and WTWO News, created three commercials promoting safety for ATV riding, mushroom hunting and turkey hunting.

CPO Wellum issued a salvage deer tag to a Clark County man.

CPO Wellum issued a Coles County man a citation for fishing without a fishing license at Oakland City Lake.

CPO Wellum assisted the Marshall Police Department with traffic control at a motor vehicle accident.

CPO Wellum assisted Clark County Police with a domestic dispute.

CPO Wellum assisted the Casey Police Department with a suicidal subject.

COLES COUNTY

While checking fishermen, CPOs Moody and Barnes cited a Mattoon and a Sullivan man for possession of cannabis at Lake Paradise.

CPO Moody wrote citations for no fishing license to two men from Champaign when he encountered them fishing in a pond without permission.

CPO Moody wrote multiple warnings and citations for boating violations.

CPO Greuel stopped a truck hauling timber. The driver was issued a citation for no proof of ownership as the result of an incomplete timber hauling log.

CPO Greuel cited a Wheeler man for no fishing license at Lake Paradise.

CPO Greuel conducted a boat title registration Investigation.

CPO Barnes cited a Charleston subject for possession of cannabis at Lake Charleston.

CPO Barnes cited a Mattoon subject for fishing without a license at Lake Paradise.

CPO Barnes attended a hunter safety class at Lakeland College.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

DOUGLAS COUNTY

CPO Greuel assisted an Arthur minor in obtaining proper permits and licenses to raise upland game birds.

EDGAR COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MOULTRIE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

SHELBY COUNTY

CPOs Moody and Barnes cited a Shelbyville and a Pana man for no fishing license and pollution of a waterway. The men had thrown all their empty beer cans along the bank of the Little Wabash River.

Sgt McReynolds, CPOs Barnes, Greuel, Moody and Wellum attended Defensive Tactics quarterly training on ground fighting instructed by CPO Reeves.

District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CPO Reeves instructed ground fighting tactics to Region 2 and 3 officers during the past 2 weeks.

CPO Reeves attended a sonar committee meeting in Springfield to discuss the progression of the Illinois Conservation Police's sonar program.

DEWITT COUNTY

CPOT Ausmus and Sgt Williamson responded to a complaint of an unauthorized ground fire at Clinton Lake SRA. The CPOs found three bank fisherman standing around a small fire. The men were informed of the rule and the reason ground fires are prohibited. A Rantoul man was issued a written warning, and the fire was extinguished.

CPOT Ausmus and CPO Viverito were checking fishermen at Clinton Lake Spillway Access. The CPOs contacted four anglers with several fish. One angler had a short Crappie. Another angler was a Georgia resident but had an Illinois resident sport fishing License. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

While checking fisherman at Clinton Lake, CPOT Ausmus and Sgt Williamson made contact with a subject fishing in a closed area. CPO Viverito and K9 Hank arrived and swept the car for narcotics. The Bloomington man was issued a written warning for fishing in a restricted area and a civil citation for unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

CPO Viverito was checking boats at Clinton Lake State Park and discovered a live well containing 3 short fish (out of a total of 45 fish). The Bloomington men were cited for the short Crappie.

FORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

IROQUOIS

No activity reported for this county

LIVINGSTON

CPO Viverito was requested to investigate a case involving the Stream Bed Protection Act at Brooks Creek in Livingston County. Officer Viverito walked approximately 1 mile of Brooks Creek and located fresh excavating along the creek. Photographs were taken and are being forwarded to the proper agency.

MACON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

McLEAN COUNTY

K9 Hank was requested by Illinois State Police District 6 to screen a semi from Laredo, Texas. The semi was transporting freight from Chicago to Mexico, and there were some issues with the driver's CDL. Hank screened the vehicle and indicated on the trailer. The investigation was turned over to ISP, and K9 left the scene.

PIATT COUNTY

CPO Williams attended a Law Enforcement Street Medicine Course in Monticello.

VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Cottrell attended 3 hunter safety classes in Vermilion County and 1 trapper safety class in Iroquois County.

CPO Cottrell cited a Danville resident for unlawful entry into a gated and posted closed area in Kickapoo State Park.

REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul

District 9 –

(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)

ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Wheatley was a guest Speaker at John Wood Community College in Quincy for a career day involving multiple schools from the surrounding area. High school Sophomores from Hancock, Adams, and Pike counties were in attendance. They were inundated with a great deal of information regarding what the Conservation Police do and how to become a CPO.

CPO Wheatley responded with the Adams County Sheriff's Department on a burglary in progress call. Officers conducted a search of the area but no one was found. The family was extremely grateful for the quick response time by the Sheriff's Department and CPO Wheatley.

CPO Myers represented the Illinois Conservation Police at the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Conference (UMRCC) in Red Wing, Minnesota. The purpose of the conference was to discuss fish and game regulations and enforcement issues along the Mississippi River. Other participants included DNR law enforcement agencies from the states of Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

CALHOUN COUNTY

CPO Michael Goetten conducted an investigation into a Missouri resident and an Illinois resident harvesting two bucks unlawfully in Calhoun County. Interviews were conducted, and both were cited for the unlawful take of the deer.

GREENE COUNTY

CPO Weishaupt attended a hunter safety class in Greenfield during which he gave a presentation about hunting laws and regulations to 32 students.

HANCOCK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Gushleff attended a career day program for local high school students in the Jerseyville area. The program was at the Jerseyville High School gym.

CPO Goetten gave a presentation on hunting laws and regulations to a hunter safety class at the American Legion in Grafton.

CPO Goetten stopped a vehicle that passed him at a high rate of speed. The driver was found to have a suspended driver's license and was subsequently arrested.

CPO Michael Goetten conducted a traffic stop and found an occupant to be in possession of more than 10 grams of cannabis and drug paraphernalia. He was arrested and transported to the Jersey County jail.

CPO Michael Goetten stopped a vehicle at Pere Marquette State Park for a traffic offense. The driver was hesitant on identifying himself, thus obstructing CPO Goetten in confirming his identity. The passenger also continuously lied about the driver's identity. As a result, the driver and passenger were arrested. A search of the vehicle revealed the passenger was unlawfully in possession of a controlled substance. Both were taken to the Jersey County Sheriff's Department where the driver's identity was finally discovered. The driver was found to be wanted on a no bond felony warrant out of Florida, and his driver's license was suspended. The driver was arrested for these charges in addition to obstructing justice. The passenger was arrested for the unlawful possession of a controlled substance.

CPO Goetten has been extremely busy closing out several reports from the past year. Some of the more noteworthy dispositions are as follows:

A subject arrested on an Illinois island in Calhoun County after exposing himself to a family with young children pled guilty. His total fines/costs were \$704.

A subject arrested in Calhoun County for operating a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (OUI) pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$1,047.

A subject arrested for possession of methamphetamine and heroin with intent to deliver pled guilty. She was sentenced to time served in jail (236 days), and her total fines and court costs were \$2,712. She additionally pled guilty and was sentenced to similar charges in Madison County.

Fourteen subjects arrested for misdemeanor drug possession in separate incidents in Jersey and Calhoun County pled guilty to the offenses or amended charges. Total fines and costs for each offender ranged from \$632 to \$1,557.

A subject arrested for falsification of residency to purchase a fishing license at a discounted price pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$300, and his sport fishing privileges were suspended as a result of the conviction.

A subject arrested for operating a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (OUI), underage consumption and drug possession in Jersey County pled guilty to amended charges. His total fines and costs were \$1,112.

A subject arrested in Greene County for driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol (DUI) following a traffic crash pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$1,830.

A subject arrested in Calhoun County for operating a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs (OUI) pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$932.

A subject cited for falsification of residency to obtain archery deer permits at a discounted price in Greene Count pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$1,500, and his Mathews bow was forfeited to the IDNR.

A subject arrested for outfitting while wildlife privileges were revoked and outfitting without a license pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$5,879.

A subject arrested twice in 2015 for poaching deer in Greene County pled guilty. Due to his repeat offenses, he was sentenced to 8 days in jail and his total fines and costs were \$539. Two firearms seized during the arrests were forfeited to the IDNR.

A subject arrested for fishing while privileges revoked and obstructing a police officer in Jersey County pled guilty to one count. His total fines and costs were \$1,930. Additionally, 7 fishing rods/reels seized from the subject were forfeited to the IDNR.

A waterfowl hunter arrested for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon pled guilty to an amended charge. His total fines and costs were \$1,079, and his shotgun was forfeited to the IDNR.

Four subjects cited in Greene County for multiple cases of trespass to harvest ginseng and harvesting ginseng during the closed season pled guilty and paid fines and costs in excess of \$1,600.

Two subjects cited in Jersey County for falsifying residency to purchase firearm and archery deer permits at a discounted price pled guilty to amended charges. Their total fines and costs combined were \$5,000.

A subject cited in Greene County for the unlawful take of two bucks pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$1,000, and a trail camera seized from the property was forfeited to the IDNR.

A subject cited in Jersey County for the unlawful take of a buck pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$264, and his bow was forfeited to the IDNR.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPOs Gushleff and Goetten investigated a deer hunting case involving 3 individuals unlawfully taking deer. The investigation resulted in all three individuals subsequently being issued citations for unlawful deer hunting without valid hunting licenses and habitat stamps during the 2015 and/or the 2016 hunting seasons. One of the subjects was also charged with falsification of records.

CPO Gushleff conducted a forestry investigation involving a timber buyer cutting 116 trees across a property line. The investigation resulted in an arrest of the timber buyer for cutting timber without consent of the landowner.

CPO Gushleff gave a presentation on hunting laws & regulations to a hunter safety class held at the Brittany Shooting Park in Bunker Hill.

PIKE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone

(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

CASS COUNTY

CPO Wichern attended a hunter safety class in Beardstown and gave a presentation to students regarding hunting laws and regulations.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran completed a bad check investigation that started when Sangchris Lake State Park personnel reported a man and woman paid their camping fees with checks which were subsequently returned for insufficient funds. As a result, both individuals were cited for failing to pay their camping fees. In addition, the woman was cited for writing a bad check (misdemeanor violation), and the male is facing felony charges for writing back checks because this was his fourth offense for the same violation.

CPO Cochran taught 6 young men and women about hunting safety and regulations in Illinois at a hunter safety class at the extension center in Taylorville.

CPO Cochran responded to a dead albino deer call outside of Edinburg. CPO Cochran determined the albino deer, a buck which had already shed his antlers, had been hit by a vehicle. The caller was advised of the proper way to dispose of the remains.

LOGAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MASON COUNTY

CPO Elliott came upon a vehicle being driven in a manner indicative of a person under the influence. CPO Elliott made a traffic stop of the vehicle and conducted field sobriety tests of the driver. The driver failed the tests and was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. A blood alcohol breath test conducted later at the county jail showed the driver to be more than twice over the legal limit.

MENARD COUNTY

CPO Bettis educated 27 hunters on hunting regulations in Illinois at a hunter safety course at the Menard County Farm Bureau building.

MORGAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

SANGAMON COUNTY

District 10 CPOs assisted Springfield and Sangamon County search and rescue personnel with the search and recovery of a jet ski accident victim on Lake Springfield.

SCOTT COUNTY

CPO Wichern responded to a complaint of coyote hunters hunting without permission in rural Scott County. The suspect was contacted and admitted to not obtaining permission from the landowner and having his gun uncased in his vehicle. He was subsequently cited for the two violations.

District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

BOND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

CLINTON COUNTY

CPO Tapley observed a subject snagging for fish below the Carlyle Lake Dam. When the subject saw CPO Tapley, he sat his fishing pole on the ground and acted as if he wasn't fishing. The subject was also found to not have a valid fishing license. A citation was issued.

MADISON COUNTY

CPOs Rolfingsmeier, Sievers, Charles, Liebl, and French responded to Highland Lake for a vehicle that had driven into the lake with the driver missing. An infant was rescued from the vehicle earlier in the morning. CPOs French and Charles were operating a jon boat around the perimeter of the lake near the vehicle and located the victim near the bank of the lake. Crime scene personnel and the coroner responded to the scene and recovered the victim and evidence at the location.

MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner was on his day off when he received a call of two subjects shooting songbirds. CPO Schachner immediately forwarded the complaint to sheriff's deputies who were able to contact the subjects while they were still shooting birds. The deputies collected a dead bird from a nearby pond where the shooters had been throwing the birds. CPO Schachner met the deputies and then returned with one of them back to the scene where he located 5 more non-game migratory birds in the brushy pond. In addition, one subject was a suspect from an earlier case of CPO Schachner's involving geese shot out of season. An interview was conducted and it was determined the violator previously killed at least one goose out of season and attempted to kill geese out of season on several other occasions. CPO Schachner cited both subjects for shooting non-game migratory birds (consisting of a Robin, a Junco, 3 female Redwing Blackbirds and a Rusty Blackbird). The goose poacher also received a citation for taking geese during closed season.

MONTGOMERY

No activity reported for this county

RANDOLPH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Charles was notified of a vehicle at Beck's Landing near Baldwin Lake that was parked in a suspicious location. CPO Charles received further information that the vehicle was reported as stolen from Sparta, IL. CPO Charles arrived at the location, secured the area and contacted a towing company to transport the vehicle for evidence processing. The investigation is still pending.

CPO Tapley made an appearance at the O'Fallon Sportsmens Club for a hunter safety course. 38 students were in attendance.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Rolfingsmeier completed a deer investigation on a hunter from Madison County who killed a 7 point buck in Washington County in November. CPO Rolfingsmeier interviewed the 14 year old hunter and learned he had not killed the buck. The hunter informed CPO Rolfingsmeier that one of his friends killed the 7 point buck in Washington County, and the friend asked him if he could use his deer permit. The hunter gave his permit to his friend who then checked in the 7 point buck under his name. CPO Rolfingsmeier interviewed the friend who admitted using his friend's deer permit. The hunter who shot the 7 point buck was issued 2 citations and 2 written warnings.

CPO Charles responded to a call for assistance from Okawville Police Department. The department received a complaint of unresponsive subjects at a local hotel. After first responders treated the subjects, CPO Charles assisted in a search of the room and located what appeared to be methamphetamine and other controlled substances. The subjects were placed on a felony hold and taken to Washington County jail.

REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber

District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens

(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline, White)

FRANKLIN COUNTY

On 3-6-2017, during the late night hours, CPO Folden was travelling on a main highway in Franklin County. CPO Folden observed a vehicle coming up behind his squad at a high rate of speed. The vehicle passed CPO Folden and was having trouble keeping within the appropriate driving lane. CPO Folden conducted a traffic stop for the lane usage violation. The subject showed signs of impairment during CPO Folden's initial conversation. CPO Folden administered field sobriety testing and later arrested the driver for driving while under the influence of alcohol. Citations for illegal lane usage DUI were issued.

At a Benton gas station, a concerned citizen informed CPO Williams that two subjects appeared to hesitate and return to their vehicle before entering the store upon the sight of a police officer. CPO Williams approached the parked vehicle and detected a strong odor of cannabis coming from the vehicle. As the subjects returned, they were questioned and one admitted to having cannabis. A civil law citation was issued and the contraband was seized.

CPO Williams presented at a hunter safety course.

GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

HAMILTON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

HARDIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Williams presented at a hunter safety course.

Sgt. Cariens cited a couple fishermen without licenses on Casey Creek. Two other men, who possessed recently expired licenses, were issued warnings.

During a department lands detail focusing on illegal off road activity at the Ten Mile Creek Fish and Wildlife Area units in Jefferson County, CPO Williams encountered a subject with a loaded rifle in his vehicle while in a site parking lot. The subject stated he was fishing but also wanted to be able to shoot a coyote. After the fishing/hunting compliance check, the subject received a citation for the loaded firearm and several written warnings.

POPE COUNTY

CPO Johnson issued a citation to a subject who passed his squad going 75 mph.

CPO Johnson interviewed multiple subjects in connection to open source deer investigations.

SALINE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WHITE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt

(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)

CLAY COUNTY

CPO Smith was advised by ISP dispatch of a potential turkey hunting violation involving hunters hunting after 1 PM. CPO Smith spoke with the complainant who said the individual's truck had set across the road from his house all day yesterday and into the evening. He said he knew they were turkey hunting because of the camo they were wearing, and it was youth turkey season. CPO Smith arrived at the location and observed the truck/trailer sitting along the roadway. CPO Smith drove back into a dead end road and observed a young hunter standing next to a turkey carcass. CPO Smith noticed an untagged turkey and noted the time to be 3:10PM. CPO Smith asked the 16 year old youth hunter if he shot the turkey, where, and when. The youth hunter said he just shot it around 10 minutes prior to CPO Smith arriving. The youth's father was retrieving a ground blind on an ATV and showed up a few minutes later. CPO Smith asked the father why the turkey was not tagged and if he was aware of the legal hunting hours. The father stated he thought he had until sunset. CPO Smith checked the firearm and found it to be unplugged. The father also admitted he transported the firearm uncased on the ATV. CPO Smith seized the tom turkey and issued 4 citations for shooting hours, untagged turkey, unplugged shotgun, and uncased firearm.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

EDWARDS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CPO Smith issued a written warning to a deer hunter for failing to report harvest by 10PM. This was an administrative investigation CPO Smith received from Springfield.

FAYETTE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JASPER COUNTY

CPO Smith issued a written warning to three boat operators for battery covers, type 4 throwing device, sounding device, and use of motor larger than 25cc.

CPO Taylor and the Jasper County Sheriff's Department investigated 2 vehicles at Meeker Woods that had driven off the approximately 40 yards off the roadway and gotten stuck in the mud. One vehicle was left at the property and was towed. An interview was conducted on the two drivers, and citations were issued to each of the drivers for operation of motor vehicle off the roadway at a State site.

CPO Taylor was conducting boat inspections at Newton Lake Fish and Wildlife Area. While he was conducting a boat safety inspection, a boat carrying 3 occupants came into the boat ramp. A boat safety inspection was conducted on that boat, and it was determined there were only 2 wearable life jackets on board. The operator of the boat was issued a citation for insufficient life jackets on board the vessel.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MARION COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

RICHLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WABASH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WAYNE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

District 16 – Sgt. K. Taylor

(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)

ALEXANDER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JACKSON COUNTY

Sgt Taylor assisted the Jackson County EMS with a medical emergency over the weekend. A female subject had been hiking the Little Grand Canyon Forest area when she had a seizure. Sgt Taylor was asked to bring a boat up the Big Muddy River to transport her out of the area do to the rugged terrain. She was safely transferred to a waiting ambulance for transport to the local hospital.

CPO Mohrman and CPOT Roper taught hunter safety education classes in Perry and Jackson Counties

JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Vasicek and a district wildlife biologist completed the annual spotlight survey to document wildlife population trends. During the 20 mile course, CPO Vasicek located a subject unlawfully hunting raccoons during the closed season with a firearm in possession. He also had license violations. The subject was cited for the offenses.

Sgt. Taylor taught at a hunter education class in Johnson County over the weekend.

CPO Johnson issued a no fishing license ticket to a subject on Lake of Egypt.

MASSAC COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

PERRY COUNTY

CPO Mohrman and CPOT Roper are investigating, along with the Perry County Sheriff's Department, a building break-in at Pyramid State Park. The draw building at the Conant section of the park was broken into and copper pipe and wiring were stolen. Damage to the building is estimated at two to three thousand dollars.

PULASKI COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

UNION COUNTY

CPO Vasicek investigated a timber theft complaint in Union County. It was determined the subject is an unlicensed timber buyer. An investigation and charges are pending at this time.

Sergeant Manker and CPO Vasicek represented Illinois at the Mississippi Flyway Council law enforcement meeting held at Ducks Unlimited world headquarters. Officers from 12 states and a federal agent from Canada were in attendance. Topics included state enforcement reports, violations trends, baiting laws, tagging, enforcement training techniques, youth education/ involvement, and Mississippi Flyway waterfowl officer of the year selection.

CPO Vasicek taught at 2 hunter education classes in Massac and Union Counties over the weekend.

CPO Vasicek taught 2 hunter education classes in Union and Johnson Counties over the weekend.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

After numerous attempts, CPO Vasicek made contact with a subject who killed an antlered deer without a permit last fall. An 8 point deer rack was seized, and a citation was issued to the subject.